

FBI

Date: 6/11/68

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AIR TEL

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(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, BUFFALO (44-374)

MURKIN

Forwarded herewith for the Bureau, Memphis and Legat, Ottawa are two copies each of a memorandum setting forth a brief chronology of subject's activities during his stay in Toronto, insofar as they had been determined as of the date of apprehension in London, England, 6/8/68.

It is noted that ASAC [redacted] and SA [redacted] of the Buffalo Office were in Toronto and worked with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) there in the development of this information. The RCMP is still conducting investigation at Toronto in an effort to fill in the gaps in the chronology.

The speculation as to why RAY did certain things in Toronto and how he obtained necessary information to establish his false identities while in Toronto represents the combined thinking of the RCMP personnel in Toronto as well as the Buffalo Bureau representatives who worked on the matter, based upon available information as to his behavior while in Toronto.

It is pointed out that details of the RCMP investigation in Toronto, including interviews, are being prepared by the RCMP and will be submitted in the usual manner, through Legat, Ottawa.

4 - Bureau (Encs. 4) (AM)

(1 - Legat, Ottawa)

1 - Memphis (44-1987) (Encs. 2) (Info.) (AM) JUN 13 1968

1 - Buffalo

JPMcM:faf

(6)

1cc: AAG Civil Rights Division

Form 6-94 (F) REL/hdc

1cc CIVIL RIGHTS UNIT JUN 13 1968

79 JUN 19 1968

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

SIX

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BU 44-374

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JAMES EARL RAY, aka
Paul Bridgeman,
Paul Bridgman,
Paul Edward Bridgeman,
Paul E. Bridgeman,
Ramon George Sneyd
Toronto, Ontario, Canada
April 8, - May 6, 1968

On April 8, 1968, subject, using the name PAUL BRIDGEMAN, obtained a room at a second rate rooming house at 102 Ossington Avenue, Toronto, operated by PELIKSA SZPAKOWSKA. He paid one week's rent in advance. It appears that subject obtained the room as a result of a room for rent sign in the window at the front of this residence.

The means by which subject entered Canada and his reason for selecting the alias Paul Bridgeman is not known. However, it is known that one PAUL BRIDGMAN is a former inmate of a prison in Kansas City, Missouri, who was paroled on January 16, 1968, and whose identity may or may not be known to RAY. While at this rooming house, RAY had no visitors, did not befriend any of the other roomers, was not known to be employed and according to the landlady usually left the house early in the morning and returned late at night.

On April 10, 1968, subject wrote a letter to the Bureau of Vital Statistics in Toronto, requesting a copy of the birth certificate of PAUL EDWARD BRIDGMAN and indicating that it should be sent to 102 Ossington Avenue, Toronto. In this letter subject gave his date of birth as November 10, 1932, his father's name as EDWARD G. B. BRIDGMAN and his mother's maiden name as EVELYN GOODEN.

It is noted that the above biographic information relative to BRIDGMAN is accurate insofar as it relates

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to an existent PAUL EDWARD BRIDGMAN who resides at 80 Cassandra Street, Toronto, and who is a reputable citizen employed as a consultant for the Board of Education.

Interviews of both the real BRIDGMAN and his wife by Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) officers in Toronto failed to establish any method by which subject obtained the biographic information set forth in his letter to the Bureau of Vital Statistics but both BRIDGMAN and his wife recall having received several telephone calls in early April, which at the time appeared to them to be innocuous, wherein they believed the caller claimed to be representative of the Canadian Immigration Department and inquired as to whether BRIDGMAN had applied for passport. Both state that they at no time furnished to the unknown caller any information concerning PAUL E. BRIDGMAN's background.

Attachment number one to this insert is a photographic copy of the letter directed by subject to the Bureau of Vital Statistics, Toronto, dated April 10, 1968, requesting the BRIDGMAN birth certificate.

On April 11, 1968, subject, as BRIDGMAN, visited the Arcade Photo Studio, Toronto, and obtained passport size photographs.

On April 16, 1968, subject, as RAMON GEORGE SNEYD, obtained a room at 962 Dundas Street West, Toronto a second rate rooming house, operated by a Chinese woman named Mrs. Sun Fung LOO.

It appears that he obtained this room as a result of a sign, room for rent, in a front window and he paid one week's rent in advance (\$9.00) with the understanding that he would take occupancy on April 19, 1968.

On April 16, 1968, subject, as RAMON GEORGE SNEYD, visited the Kennedy Travel Bureau, 424 Bloor Street West, Toronto, where he arranged with [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] of that travel bureau office, for a round trip ticket via British Overseas Airline Company (BOAC) from Toronto to London. In connection with arranging this reservation, it was necessary for subject to furnish an Affidavit for a Canadian passport which he did in the name of RAMON GEORGE SNEYD, listing his date of birth as October 8, 1932, and giving his address as 962 Dundas Street, Toronto. In answer to a requirement in connection with the passport application for the name of a sponsor, EARL indicated that he had only been in Toronto for three weeks and had no local sponsor. In answer to the question on the application as to who should be notified in the event of an emergency, EARL listed the name PAUL BRIDGMAN and the address of 102 Ossington Avenue, Toronto.

In answer to [REDACTED]'s request for three passport photographs, RAY furnished to her three copies of the photograph which he had previously obtained from the Arcade Photo Studios on April 11, 1968, under the name of PAUL BRIDGMAN. It is noted, however, that nowhere on the photograph does any name appear.

As a result of a request made by subject at that time, [REDACTED] obtained through BOAC, reservations for him to travel to London departing from Toronto on May 6, 1968, via BOAC Flight 600 and returning to Toronto on May 21, 1968, via BOAC Flight 601.

Anticipating that it would take approximately ten days to receive the passport, Miss SPENCER suggested that subject return to pick up his ticket and his passport in about ten days.

On April 16, 1968, subject wrote a letter to the Bureau of Vital Statistics, Toronto, requesting birth certificate in the name of RAMON GEORGE SNEYD, listing his date of birth as October 8, 1932, at Toronto, setting forth his father's name as GEORGE SNEYD and his mother's maiden name as GLADYS MAE KILNER and requesting that it be sent to 962 Dundas Street West, Toronto.

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A photographic copy of this letter is attachment number 2 to this insert.

It is noted that according to Mrs. FELIKSA SZPAKOWSKA, landlady at 102 Ossington Avenue, Toronto, a letter arrived for subject as PAUL E. BRIDGMAN at the Ossington Avenue address from the Bureau of Vital Statistics, Toronto, several days before he left that address and although she pointed out to him on at least two occasions that the letter was on a table and for him, he never did take possession of it and, therefore, after he departed from the Ossington Avenue address, she returned it to the Bureau of Vital Statistics. On April 17, 1968, Miss LILLIAN SPENCER, Kennedy Travel Bureau, Toronto, addressed a letter to the Canadian Passport Department, Ottawa, forwarding subject's application under the name of RAMON GEORGE SNEYD and enclosing a \$5.00 money order, which is the standard fee for a passport.

On April 19, 1968, subject, as RAMON GEORGE SNEYD, moved into the rooming house at 962 Dundas Street West, had no baggage according to Mrs. Sun Fung LOO, landlady at that address and she did not see him thereafter until April 26, 1968. According to Sun Fung LOO, subject did not appear to make friends with anyone in the rooming house and she had no knowledge as to any employment or other activities on his part.

On April 20, 1968, subject, as RAMON GEORGE SNEYD, listing his address as 962 Dundas, wrote a letter to the Kennedy Travel Bureau informing them that he had to go to Capreol for several weeks on business and would pick up his passport upon his return.

It appears he was referring to Capreol, a small town in northern Ontario. RCMP investigation indicates that subject was not known in that small town nor was there any evidence that he had actually gone there.

Photographic copy of the letter of April 20, 1968, is attached hereto as attachment number 3.

With regard to the RAMON GEORGE SNEYD identification used by RAY, commencing approximately April 16, 1968, it is noted that there is an existent RAMON GEORGE SNEYD, a police officer in the Metropolitan Toronto Police Department (MTPD), who has been so employed for over 12 years, who resides at 1731 Victoria Park Avenue, Toronto, and whose biographic background is identical with that furnished by subject when RAY wrote to the Bureau of Vital Statistics at Toronto, on April 16, 1968, requesting a birth certificate in that name. Interviews of the real RAMON GEORGE SNEYD by representatives of both the RCMP and MTPD have failed to establish any information as to how subject obtained the necessary background data to apply for the birth certificate in that name. The real SNEYD has advised that he did not know subject and when shown photographs of him, stated that insofar as he could recall, had never seen him.

Mrs. Sun Fung LOO, landlady at 962 Dundas West, advised during interview that the next contact she had with subject, subsequent to his moving into her rooming house on April 19, 1968, was on April 26, 1968, when he paid her another week's rent in advance and told her that since he had last seen her he had gone back to Montreal.

According to Mrs. Sun Fung LOO, she did not again have any contact with the subject until May 2, 1968, when he again paid her one week's room rent in advance.

On May 2, 1968, RAY, as SNEYD, visited the Kennedy Travel Bureau, Bloor Street, Toronto, and picked up his Canadian Passport and round trip ticket via BOAC to London. It is noted this ticket called for his departure from Toronto on BOAC Flight 600, May 6, 1968, with a schedule of return by BOAC Flight 601 on May 21, 1968.

According to Miss SPENCER, Manager of the Kennedy Travel Bureau, subject paid \$345.00 in Canadian funds for the round trip ticket and during interview,

Miss SPENCER was very emphatic that it was Canadian money that he used, pointing out that if it had been American money, she would have become involved in the exchange rate, etc., which she could not possibly have forgotten.

On May 6, 1968, subject, as RAMON GEORGE SNEYD, departed Toronto International Airport via BOAC Flight 600 at 7:00 P.M. for London, England. During interview by RCMP, Mrs. Sun Fung LOO, landlady at 962 Dundas West, advised that not until May 10, 1968, did she realize that subject, as SNEYD, had abandoned his room in her rooming house so that she does not actually know when he left, as she had not seen him subsequent to the occasion on May 2, 1968, when he paid one week's rent in advance.

It is noted that while both landladies and the Manager of the travel bureau in Toronto, as well as the employee at the Arcade Photo Studios, Toronto, all recognized the passport photograph of subject, none could make a positive or even strong identification of any other available photographs of RAY. It is also pointed out that according to RCMP investigation in Toronto, those individuals who had contact with the subject during his stay in Toronto, from April 3, 1968, to May 6, 1968, advised that he wore glasses at all times and none had seen him without them.

One of the suggestions as to how subject got the necessary background data concerning both BRIDGMAN and SNEYD to obtain birth certificates in both names is through a check at the morgue at the local Toronto newspaper or possibly a similar check of newspapers available in the public library. This suggestion was advanced since announcements of births appear in Toronto newspapers, listing in addition to the date of birth, the names of the parents. It is noted that both SNEYD and BRIDGMAN were born within approximately one month of one another, that is October 8, 1932, and November 10, 1932, respectively.

The switch from the BRIDGMAN identity to the SNEYD identity in Toronto appears to have possibly been triggered by some suspicion of RAY's that the BRIDGMAN identity was heating up. However, investigation in Toronto, such as a review of MTPD records to ascertain whether BRIDGMAN might have been stopped on a routine or other type check in Toronto, during the time that subject was using that identity, has failed to develop any record of such a check.

No logical explanation has been developed as to why subject, once he decided to abandon the BRIDGMAN identification, continued to reside at the 102 Ossington Avenue West address, particularly, since the landlady at that address had stated that on at least two occasions she called his attention to the fact that there was a letter there for him from the Bureau of Vital Statistics, Toronto, which presumably contained the birth certificate which he had requested.

It is also worthy to note that RAY appeared to have gone through the necessary procedure to obtain the RAMON GEORGE SNEYD birth certificate from the Bureau of Vital Statistics in Toronto, even though it was not necessary in connection with his passport request for his obtaining of passage by BOAC to London. This is evidenced by the fact that his letter applying to the Bureau of Vital Statistics for the SNEYD birth certificate was dated on exactly the same date on which he had arranged, through the Kennedy Travel Bureau, for his Canadian Passport.